

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01
ABF-01 ACDA-12 SMS-01 /135 W
-----113611 180519Z /23

R 161529Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 083
INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 10180

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA, NI
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: SOVIET POSITION ON UNTAG FINANCING

REF: (A) STATE 204549; (B) STATE 192354

1. ON AUGUST 16 CHARGE MADE REPRESENTATIONS ALONG LINES REFTEL
A TO AMBASSADOR SANU, DIRECTOR OF MEA'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
DEPARTMENT. SANU FIRST RESPONDED THAT REFUSAL TO PAY FOR PEACE-
KEEPING OPERATIONS HAS BEEN A CONSISTENT SOVIET POSITION AND
THAT THERE WAS NO POINT IN EXPECTING NIGERIA TO TAKE THE SUBJECT
UP WITH THE SOVIETS. HE SAID THE SOVIETS WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY
ARGUE THAT THEY WERE UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO PAY FOR OPERATIONS
WHICH WERE IN THE WESTERN INTEREST.

2. THE CHARGE POINTED IN RESPONSE TO THE VERY BROAD SUPPORT
WHICH THE CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL HAD OBTAINED IN THE SECURITY
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COUNCIL AND WOULD ALSO UNDOUBTEDLY OBTAIN IF DISCUSSED IN
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THE UN HAS A
UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITY AT THE PRESENT TIME FOR THE TERRITORY OF
NAMIBIA.

3. ALTHOUGH SANU REMAINED SKEPTICAL REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY
THAT NIGERIA COULD INFLUENCE THE SOVIET ATTITUDE ON THIS ISSUE,

HE SAID THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS WITH THE NEW COMMISSIONER OF
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS THE POSSIBILITY OF BROACHING THE MATTER INFORMALLY
WITH THE SOVIETS AT AN APPROPRIATE TIME.

4. COMMENT: WE WOULD EXPECT THAT SANU'S VIEWS WILL PROBABLY
PREVAIL ON THIS ISSUE AND THAT THE FMG WILL RAISE THE SUBJECT
VERY GENTLY, IF AT ALL, WITH THE SOVIETS.
WYMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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